St. Francis' School Newsletter

8th March 2024



BOOK

DAY

Value of the month – Forgiveness

Week 3 Reflection

This week our reflection comes from Cafod, who send out daily reflections during Lent if you go to their website you can sign up for these. Jesus tells us that the first commandment is to love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. The next is to love our neighbour as ourselves.

Lent is a time for us to reset and reprioritise these two commandments in our lives. As we make space each day to reflect on God's word, and to listen more attentively to what is being asked of us, we may also become more aware of others around us. Loving God is not something that we keep just to ourselves, but is shown each day in all that we do and in how we treat others. On this International Women's Day, we think especially of all those women across the world who do just this. Guided by their love of God and love for their neighbour, they are building communities and creating change, so that our world better reflects the Kingdom of God.

Join together in prayer with these words:
Gracious God,
we pray for women
throughout the world
who are building up
their own communities.
As we love you,
may we love our neighbour,
and support one another
to reflect your kingdom here on earth.
Amen.

World Book Day

Yesterday we had an incredibly exciting day with various activities being held. It was wonderful seeing all of the children and staff dressed up. and being able to share our favourite stories.

They thoroughly enjoyed the film in the hall whilst having their juice and biscuit. In the afternoon, all of the children greatly enjoyed listening to stories from other teachers. Throughout the day, the children spent their time sharing their books that they had brought in with their class. We would like to thank those of you who donated books for our book swap. It was incredibly successful and so lovely for every child to be able to go home with a new book to share with their family. The children were so determined to find one of the treasured Golden Tickets, so that they can enjoy a delicious afternoon tea with Mrs Wheeler and Mr Murphy. Congratulations to the winning children!

Green Redeem Results

Great news!! Thanks to the support of you and the wider St Francis' community, we have won a fabulous £500 towards sustainability resources for our school! Thank you all so much, we are delighted that despite finally coming 5th place - a last minute influx of donations for another school meant we lost our 4th position, thankfully, 5th position received the same amount as 4th. We will keep you informed in due course as to exactly what the money will be spent on. Thanks again!

Celebration Assembly

Well done to all those certificate winners this week and to Thomas Moore for winning the House Points Cup.

Best wishes, for a wonderful weekend. Mrs Wheeler and Staff









ST FRANCIS SCHOOL SPEECH AND DRAMA

Supporting Literacy and the Curriculum since 2007





LONDON ACADEMY OF MUSIC AND DRAMATIC ART EXAMINATIONS

CONGRATULATIONS to the children who took exams at LAMDA in January not least to Aaliyah, Astrid, Dominic Grace, Isla, Kamshika, Leon, Olivia, Samuel, Sebastian and Taylor, who have all completed the foundation (Introductory) programme with Distinction and are progressing to Entry and Graded performance and communication exams. Also to Orla, Scarlett and Archie for Stage 2, then Ivy for Entry Acting and Max for Entry Reading for Performance.



Most of the children are involved in arrange of activities in, after and out of school with some in *Freedom Academy* (and theatrical agency) run by professionally trained actress Kat Henry, and her team of experts which has branches: in Caterham and Dulwich. <u>Freedom Academy of Performing Arts.</u>

Well done to Taylor who commenced speech and drama training in Reception under lockdown 2020 and will take his Entry Acting exam in the Autumn. As a member of *Love Theatre Arts* in Cheam, - https://www.lovetheatrearts.com/ - Taylor was snapped up by an agent and has just completed filming *Black Doves* his third film/TV Series since 2022, playing Oliver Webb, the son of Keira Knightley's character







Head Teacher, Mrs Wheeler. will shortly be adjudicating the KS2 Poetry by Heart competition from which the three highest scored entrants will be forwarded to the national competition, along with selected "Freestyle" pieces.

Poetry by Heart is a national poetry speaking competition for all schools and colleges in England (and British schools overseas), supporting the curriculum and which St Francis has won for Surrey Primary/Prep schools in 2020, 2021, and 2023. In 2022 St Francis won its partner competition - the CliPPA shadowing scheme. All St Francis children are eligible and numerous who have taken part previously have gone on to participate at secondary level, with our 2020 winner Nithali, achieving Highly Commended nationally for Woldingham. See poetrybyheart.org.uk Benefits: Memory Skills, Oracy, Independence, Focus: Literacy; Understanding, Collaboration, Confidence... and a sense of Achievement

Calendar Dates	
Friday 8 th March	PTA Disco – Y3 & Y4 & Y5 & Y6
Week of 11 th March	Science Week: Theme – Time and Connections
Tuesday 12 th March	Choir – Prom Praise for Schools at The Royal Albert Hall. Details to be confirmed.
Friday 22 nd March	AM Reception & Y 1 Classes Easter Liturgy – Palm Sunday
Monday 25 th March	AM Y2 Easter Liturgy – Jesus in the Temple PM Y5 & Y6 Young Shakespeare Mid-Summer Nights Dream Performance
Tuesday 26 th March	AM Y3 Easter Liturgy – Washing of the Feet PM Y4 Easter Liturgy - The Last Supper
Wednesday 27 th March	AM Y5 Easter Liturgy - The Garden of Gethsemane
Thursday 28 th March	AM Y6 Easter Liturgy - Stations of the Cross Reflection School Finishes @ 1pm for the Easter Break – Note on this day Treetops will open for the morning session only. It will be closed for the afternoon.





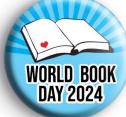
























The PTA is a Parent Teacher Association, an organisation with a mission to make the school a better place for children to learn. It brings together parents, teachers and children to raise funds and strengthen the school community.

Money raised is usually spent on things that the school budget does not cover.

Whether it is a Quiz, Disco or Christmas Bazaar, these things all require resource and collaboration. The PTA Committee remains committed to coordinating and working with the school in delivering these events, which are invariably enjoyed by all.

That said, I need to expand the PTA Committee and to ask perhaps for one or two volunteers to put their names forward to join us. In doing so, it would enable Russell and I to share out the responsibilities collectively for such events and build for the future also. The tasks that the PTA Committee coordinate should not impact anyone's daily or weekly schedules. It is to support the coordination, delivery of events and commitment to raising funds as a result.

As parents of children at St Francis, we are all part of the Parent Teachers Association. We remain grateful to parents who provide support at events held. Please consider joining the Committee and let me know.

Thank you all in advance.
Best
On behalf of the PTA Committee
Alastair
PTA Chair

